

Modifying and Adapting Environments



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Howard County Caregiver Conference
3/25/2017

Agenda

- Learn about common hazards in the home
- Review commonly utilized home modifications and adaptive equipment
- Resources for home modification and adaptive equipment
- Q&A



Most adults would prefer to age in place—that is, remain in their home of choice as long as possible.

Common Hazards in the Home

- Bathroom
Enter/Exit Shower or Tub
Slippery surfaces
Towel Bars
Transfer on/off Commode
- Going from Level to Level
Carpets loose or fraying
Unstable handrails
- Thresholds
Tripping hazard
Glare/Lightning

Home Safety

- Remove Tripping Hazards (THROW RUGS)
- Adequate Lighting
- Proper Footwear
- Walkways should be free of clutter
- Bilateral Handrails for staircase
- Pets?
- Medication side effects
- Transitions clearly marked

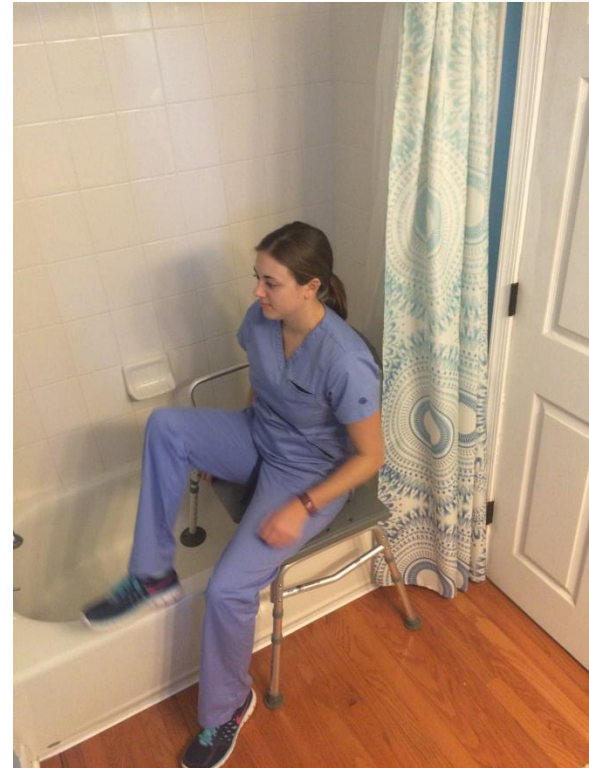
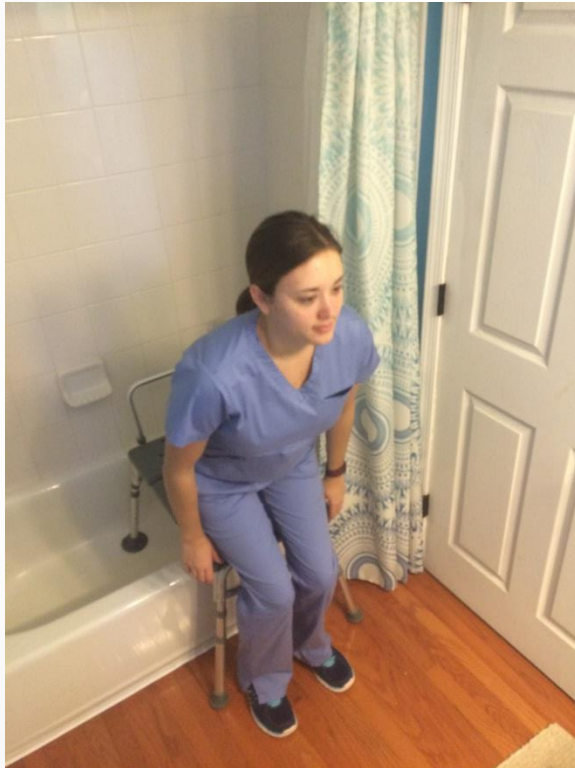
3 in 1 Commode/Bedside Commode



Tub Transfer Bench



Transfer using the Tub Transfer Bench



Hand Held Shower



Grab Bar



The Center for Disease Control defines **aging in place** as "the ability to live in one's own home and community safely, independently, and comfortably, regardless of age, income, or ability level

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Resources for Home Modifications and Adaptive Equipment

Private Pay

Long-Term Care Insurance

Reverse Mortgage

Howard County Tax Credit

- ❖ Aging in Place Tax Credit

- ❖ Livable Homes Tax Credit

Applications due April 1, 2017 and can be found
@taxcredits.howardcountymd.gov.

410-313-4076

Resources for Home Modifications and Adaptive Equipment

Howard County Office on Aging and Independence
Caregiver Grant Program
Home Modification Program
Loan Closet of Howard County
Maryland Access Point

Department of Disabilities – Maryland Technology Assistance
Program

www.myatprogram.org

Statewide Portable Ramp program 1-800-832-4827

Rebuilding Together of Howard County

Veterans Administration

Maryland Department of Disabilities

Equipment Link

www.myatprogram.org

Technology Assistance
program

- The purpose of the AT classifieds is to allow individuals the ability to view and post gently used Assistive Technology for sale, free or needed
- Home modifications
- Adapted vehicles
- Scooters and wheelchairs
- Braille equipment
- Hearing and vision aids
- Augmentative communication devices
- Environmental control units
- Computers and adaptive peripherals
- Many other devices



We are committed to improving the lives of the elderly, individuals with disabilities, veterans, and families with children; all homeowners in Howard County who have worked hard, but can no longer afford to keep up with repairs. Today, the need is even greater in the midst of the difficult economic climate.

410-381-3338

rebuildingtogetherhowardcounty.org

What NOT to do



Questions???

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